General Assembly

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Sixty-first session
Agenda item 108 (*g*)

Resolution adopted by the General Assembly

[*without reference to a Main Committee (A/61/L.14 and Add.1)*]

61/13. Cooperation between the United Nations and the Council of Europe

The General Assembly,

Recalling the Agreement between the Council of Europe and the Secretariat of the United Nations signed on 15 December 1951 and the Arrangement on Cooperation and Liaison between the Secretariats of the United Nations and the Council of Europe of 19 November 1971,

Recalling also the 2005 World Summit Outcome, approved at the United Nations summit held in New York from 14 to 16 September 2005, including the section on regional organizations,[1] which provides an incentive to reinforce links between the United Nations and regional organizations such as the Council of Europe,

Welcoming the outcome of the Third Summit of the Council of Europe, held in Warsaw on 16 and 17 May 2005, and the fact that on this occasion the Heads of State and Government encouraged cooperation with the United Nations and the specialized agencies, and committed themselves to achieving the Millennium Developments Goals in Europe, including environmental development,

Welcoming also the increasingly close relations between the United Nations and the Council of Europe,

Welcoming further the report of the Secretary-General on cooperation between the United Nations and the Council of Europe,[2]

1. *Considers* that cooperation with the Council of Europe regarding the protection of human rights, the fight against racism, discrimination, xenophobia and intolerance, the protection of the rights of persons belonging to minorities, the prevention of torture and inhuman or degrading treatment or punishment, the fight against trafficking in human beings and violence against women, as well as the protection and promotion of the rights of the child should be reinforced;

[1] Resolution 60/1, para. 170.

[2] A/61/256, part one, sect. VI.

2. *Takes note* of the important role of the European Court of Human Rights, and invites the Human Rights Council and the Office of the United Nations High Commissioner for Human Rights to work closely with the Council of Europe, and in particular its Commissioner for Human Rights, in promoting respect for human rights;

3. *Notes* the contribution of the Council of Europe to the protection and strengthening of democracy, inter alia, through the Forum for the Future of Democracy, and welcomes fruitful cooperation between the United Nations and the Council of Europe in the area of democracy, good governance and education for democratic citizenship and human rights, in particular through the strengthening of links between the United Nations Decade of Education for Sustainable Development and the Council of Europe Project on Education for Democratic Citizenship and Human Rights;

4. *Encourages* the development of cooperation, where appropriate, between the United Nations Peacebuilding Commission and the Council of Europe, with a view to promoting post-conflict re-establishment and consolidation of peace in Europe, with full respect for human rights and the rule of law;

5. *Commends* the ongoing cooperation between the Counter-Terrorism Committee and its Executive Directorate and the Council of Europe, as well as the contribution of the Council of Europe to the implementation of Security Council resolutions 1373 (2001) of 28 September 2001 and 1624 (2005) of 14 September 2005, and calls for the deepening of cooperation in the fight against terrorism, while protecting human rights;

6. *Encourages* cooperation between the two organizations regarding the fight against transnational organized crime, cybercrime, corruption and money-laundering, as well as concerning the promotion of human rights and the rule of law in the information society;

7. *Reiterates its support* for cooperation between the two organizations in the social field, in particular concerning the protection and promotion of the rights and dignity of persons with disabilities, combating poverty and social exclusion and ensuring equal access to social rights for all;

8. *Welcomes* the joint initiatives of the United Nations Educational, Scientific and Cultural Organization and the Council of Europe for the promotion of intercultural dialogue, especially the creation of the Faro Platform of inter-institutional cooperation in 2005, and encourages the continuation of such cooperation, in particular through the European Centre for Global Interdependence and Solidarity of the Council of Europe, and also as regards the promotion of cultural diversity;

9. *Notes* the constructive interest of the Parliamentary Assembly of the Council of Europe in the reform process of the United Nations, and welcomes its proposals for a closer involvement of parliamentarians in the work of the United Nations;

10. *Requests* the Secretaries-General of the United Nations and the Council of Europe to combine their efforts in seeking answers to global challenges, within their respective mandates, and calls upon all relevant United Nations bodies to support the enhancement of cooperation with the Council of Europe in the areas mentioned above;

11. *Decides* to include in the provisional agenda of its sixty-third session the sub-item entitled "Cooperation between the United Nations and the Council of Europe", and requests the Secretary-General to submit to the General Assembly at its sixty-third session a report on cooperation between the United Nations and the Council of Europe in implementation of the present resolution.

52nd plenary meeting
13 November 2006